

U.S. Application No. 09/670,869
Reply to Office Action dated August 9, 2005

PATENT
450100-02731

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10, 11 and 13 are pending. Claims 1, 6 and 11, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter is added by these amendments. Claims 4, 9, 12 and 14-21 were previously canceled. Support for the amended recitations in the claims is found throughout the Specification and Drawings and specifically at page 10, lines 6-16. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-3 and 6-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,323,909 to Michener et al. (hereinafter, merely "Michener") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,799,081 to Kim et al. (hereinafter, merely "Kim") and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,366,731 to Na et al. (hereinafter, merely "Na").

Claims 5, 10, 11 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Michener in view of Kim and Na, in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,987,126 to Okuyama et al. (hereinafter, merely "Okuyama").

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Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“A signal receiving apparatus...

storage means for storing a user's information, the user's information being a function of the digital satellite broadcasting signal;

transmitting means for transmitting the user information from the storage means to a broadcast station;

wherein the user information is used to determine access to the digital satellite broadcasting signal...” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicant, Michener relates to broadcast television and to a method and apparatus for transmitting high definition television (HDTV) and standard definition television (SDTV) signals via satellite. The transmission station compresses a video signal and encodes a digital audio signal while transmitting programming in a first format by digitally encoding video and audio signals and repacketizing the packetized digitally encoded video and audio signals in the first format into a second format.

As understood by Applicant, Kim relates to an illegal view/copy protection method and apparatus for a digital broadcasting system. Digital broadcasting performed through broadcasting media or through prerecorded media is prevented from being illegally viewed or copied. A protection method including an audio/video signal transmission step for multiplexing and transmitting audio/video bit stream scrambled in control words which are encrypted.

As understood by Applicant, Na relates to a digital audio/video apparatus and a multimedia system in which a plurality of digital audio/video apparatuses are connected via a digital interface. A multimedia system for transferring a single program transport stream of an intended single program, from among the transport stream of a multi-program received by a receiver.

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As understood by Applicant, Okuyama relates to network system using a device having a digital interface having a copy protection function. The digital interface includes a first detector which detects the copy generation management information and a first interface which converts the data in a predetermined format to the data in the data format of the network bus and inserts the copy generation management information based on the detection result.

Applicant submits that Michener, Kim, Na and Okuyama, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicant submits that there is no teaching or suggestion, in the cited references, of storing a user's information which is a function of the digital satellite broadcasting signal, then transmitting that user information from the storage to a broadcast station wherein the user information is used to determine access to the digital satellite broadcasting signal, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 6 and 11 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 6 and 11 are patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

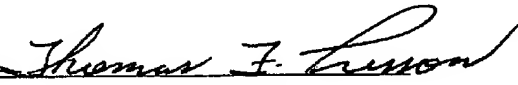
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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